

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			Complete if Known		
			Application Number	To Be Assigned	
			Filing Date	March 28, 2002	
			First Named Inventor	Ubaldo Armato et al.	
			Art Unit	To Be Determined	
			Examiner Name	To Be Determined	
Sheet		of		Attorney Docket Number	17642-59

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Issue Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number -Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
<i>aw</i>		US-4,703,108	10-27-1987	Silver et al.
<i>aw</i>		US-4,963,489	10-16-1990	Naughton et al.
<i>aw</i>		US-5,266,480	11-30-1993	Naughton et al.
<i>aw</i>		US-5,606,019	02-25-1997	Cappello
<i>aw</i>		US-5,670,483	09-23-1997	Zhang et al.
<i>aw</i>		US-5,902,741	05-11-1999	Purchio et al.
<i>aw</i>		US-5,932,207	08-03-1999	Schmidt
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
<i>aw</i>		EP 0 913 162 A1	06-05-1999	Ethicon Endo-Surgery, Inc.		
<i>aw</i>		WO 96/25961	08-29-1996	Geistlich et al.		
<i>aw</i>		WO 98/57676	12-23-1998	Tsubouchi, Kozo		

Examiner Signature	<i>[Signature]</i>	Date Considered	9/30/04
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.